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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

THE CULDEE CONNECTION

DECEMBER 2021

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Come LORD JESUS



“With the arrival of Advent, Christians everywhere turn again towards the Savior. Advent marks the beginning of the celebration of His birth and His long-foretold ministry, atonement, death, resurrection and second coming. If Advent is an occasion when we re-turn our eyes to the Savior, then it is also an invitation to consider where our eyes—and our hearts—have been in the meantime. Advent is the gentle nudge that invites us to remember that the truth most worth knowing is that Jesus Christ is the **ONLY** way Home. It is also

a gentle reminder that we ought to keep our eyes upon **HIM** all year long.”
— Jean-Michel Hansen

During this blessed season, hold your family and friends close; remember those who are missing loved one; lift in prayer all those struggling with medical, emotional and spiritual concerns. Come **LORD JESUS** Come!

NOTES FROM THE SESSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 14

June Stewart, Clerk

The Session met in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of Elders in attendance. Our Moderator was Rev. Rick Martindale, First Presbyterian Church of Carthage.

The Budget for 2022 was approved.

Elders approved replacing the compressor on a heating and air unit that serves the Fellowship Hall.

Elders approved the pulpit supply for December...Tom Currie...Dec. 5; Cathy Haynes...Dec. 12; Musical Service...Dec. 19; Sandy Stewart...December 26

Thanksgiving Breakfast/Thank Offering



Thanks go out to Darrell and Karen McKenzie and their crew for preparing a delicious breakfast on Thanksgiving morning. It was great to see everyone who drove through and picked up their meals. The Culdee PW appreciate your donations to this year's national THANK OFFERING. Each year the funds raised provide grant money that is awarded to a number of worthy ministries across the US and Internationally. Our church's contribution this year is \$391.00.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoe Boxes



Culdee provided 18 shoeboxes this year! Our drop off site was Seven Lakes Baptist Church. Those boxes will bring lots of smiles to children here in America and around the world.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dee Anderson	01	Lily Cox	09	Michael Salargo	22
Matt Halverstadt	03	Nicholas Fortune	10	Abby Governale	22
Tim Howle	03	Patrick Fields	12	Denise Grandolfo	26
Joan Altman	04	Ed Taylor	12	Susan Gribben	27
Alistair McKenzie	04	Luke Black	14	Everette Parsons	27
Russell Whitaker	07	Betty Lois Frye	14	Kim Cole	28
Darrell Parsons	07	Chris Bobo	16	Camrey Vest	28
Jim Dalton	08	Douglas Meeks	16	Ann Savage	30
Roston Barber	08	Kelsey Thompson	20	Mark Thompson	30
		Gwyn Cox	21		

CONGREGATIONAL CARE NEWS

Matthew 5:16 *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

The Congregational Care Committee met on November 7th to discuss plans for our “New Year’s Meal” event on January 1, 2022. The menu was discussed and finalized. We have requested each of the Women’s Circles to bake six dozen muffins. The Men’s Club has been asked to cook the meat. A sign-up board has been placed in the Sunroom requesting needed food items, donations toward the purchase of the meat, homemade desserts and help to prepare and serve the meal.

Our plan is to form teams to prepare and cook “Darrell’s collards” and to sort, wash and cook the black eyed peas prior to the event. Teams will also be formed to warm the food, prepare the takeout plates, greet customers, take orders, collect money and deliver orders to the cars. Please sign up to be a member of one of our teams and join in on the fun and fellowship. Many hands make the work easier and we have opportunities for everyone.

Due to pandemic safety concerns, this event has been planned as a drive through event. Funds raised will go to Building and Grounds and to Missions.

Eve Williamson, Chair

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

The Christian Education ministry continues to add programs following our Covid pause. On Sunday mornings, Sunday School for children ages 3 – 5 will begin immediately following the Children’s sermon. We appreciate Karen McKenzie for serving with this group. Lauren Tierney will be teaching the school age children through 5th grade. They will be studying Bible stories, making crafts, and utilizing Right Now Media to enhance the study. We appreciate both ladies for their willingness to assist with our younger children.

We are adding a monthly “Funday Sunday” youth gathering for all community school age children on the first Sunday of each month (except January...which falls on January 2nd). On December 5th at 4:00, youth will enjoy Gaga Ball with the addition of volleyball. After a time of fellowship and competition, we will gather inside for prayer, pizza and a “Hot Cocoa Bar,” After our time inside, we will load the van for a trip to “Highlanders Farm Light Show.” Youth should bring money if they wish to enjoy homemade ice cream, apple cider or more hot chocolate at the stand.

Our annual Children’s Christmas party will be on December 19th at 6:00 in the fellowship hall. They will enjoy a Christmas Story told by the fireside and singing Christmas Carols followed by refreshments and a special visit from Santa! We will be asking for members to donate cookies for the party.

Wade will complete his service as Elder for this term. We appreciate his work to enhance the programs at Culdee!

Patti Burke and Wade Garner

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S NEWS

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Holiday Bazaar, either by baking goods, creating crafts or purchasing items. We can't tell you how much we appreciate your support. We raised \$1600.00 in a matter of three hours, sold out everything and could have sold more. Of the \$1600.00, 75% will go toward missions and 25% will stay with the Presbyterian Women for their projects and needs. Thank you so much!

Also, A HUGE thank you for those who chose angels from our Angel Tree and provided a gift for a child. Having so much, we can't imagine their surprise and happiness to receive something so small for Christmas! Every year, our church has supported Barium Springs as a part of Children's Hope Alliance. Thank you to Lori Fees for coordinating and transporting our gifts. It is always a blessing to see and visit with Lori.

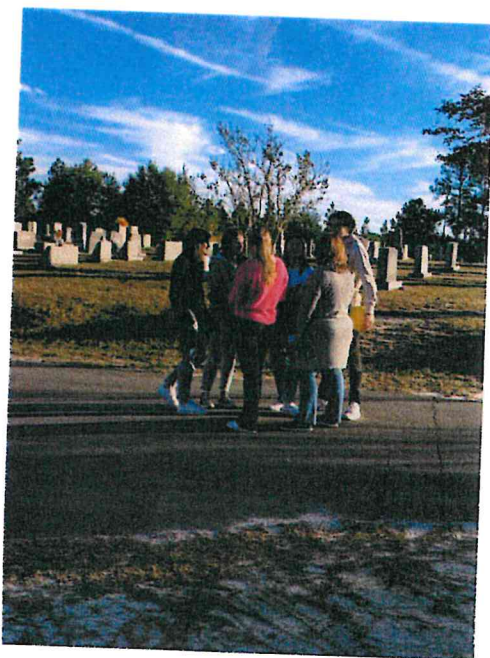
Darlene Valitutto, PW Moderator

Successful "Angel Tree" donation pick up.....Lori Fees from *Children's Hope Alliance* thanked the congregation during the Sunday Service.





30 youth attended and enjoyed
an afternoon of fun, fellowship,
pizza and PRAYER!



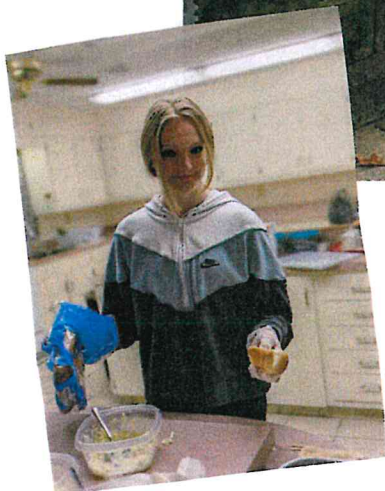
Our November Sunday
Funday was a success!





Merry Christmas from Culdee Youth!

In November, we went on our first trip since the pandemic began and had a wonderful time together! We visited Appalachian State and attended a football game. We got to see Adin and celebrate his birthday! We also sold hotdogs at the bake sale and had fun seeing everyone! Thanks to all of you that have contributed to our Multipurpose Area and basketball court project. We hope to see it come to life soon, for all to enjoy! Have a wonderful Christmas season!





Finance Ministry: Chairman Danny Aldridge & Vice Chair Diann Fortune

Luke 14:28 *For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?*

2022 Budget Process:

After consulting the attached October 2021 financial statement from Sandhills Accounting Services, the Finance Ministry maintains its 2022 budget recommendations to the Session. Since current contributions are not fully funding the 2021 budget, the Finance Ministry's 2022 proposal, based on actual 2021 Ministry expenses, suggested lowering amounts where feasible. Compensating an installed pastor remains a priority.

The positive news is that Culdee's expenses are way under the 2021 Budget for most Ministries and contributions are surpassing current expenses. Thank you for your continued support of God's work at Culdee.

Reported to the Finance Ministry members was that the Session began deliberating the 2022 Budget at the October Session meeting, increasing some amounts proposed by the Finance Ministry. The 2022 Budget was not approved as the employee section was still to be discussed. Elders Eve Williamson, Tim Bailey and Robert Barber requested Finance gather and present comparative salary data for music directors before determining any changes to employee compensation. Elders Patti Burke, Danny Aldridge and Diann Fortune gathered the requested data which showed that for churches similar in size to Culdee with one music person on staff, music staff worked between 10-15 hours per week at an average annual salary of \$17,050.00.

The discussion of the 2022 Budget will continue at the November Session meeting after presentation of the requested salary data. Once the Session determines and approves the 2022 Budget, the new information will be turned over to Sandhills Accounting Services so they are prepared for any changes prior to January 2022.

Financial Status:

















Operations: Thank you for your support of Culdee. Culdee has been blessed to operate during the pandemic without being forced to cut hours or staff. October's expenses remain under the 2021 year-to-date budget.

Investments: Investments are funds that may or may not be replaced once used up. The investments' earnings chart shows the wisdom of the Session in approving the recommendations from the Finance Ministry/ Investments Committee to move funds under the professional oversight of Stifel. The growth of these funds will help Culdee honor God with gifts given to His glory. Although the market will fluctuate, with Stifel's guidance, losses will be minimal and earnings should still be greater than what is observed with the banks.









	January 2021 Total Invested	October 2021 Total Invested	Year-To-Date Earnings/Growth
Truist (BB&T) Bank and Live Oak Bank	\$212,207.93	\$184,656.45	\$939.64
Stifel-Eastman, Palmer, Davis & Vaughn Wealth Management Group	\$98,526.66	\$338,034.88	\$24,127.54

Please contact Finance Ministry members if you have comments or questions regarding Culdee's finances.

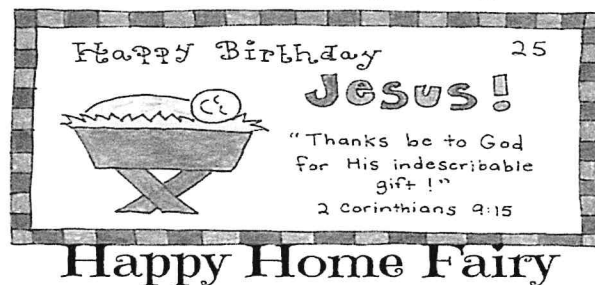
Christmas Activity for All Ages

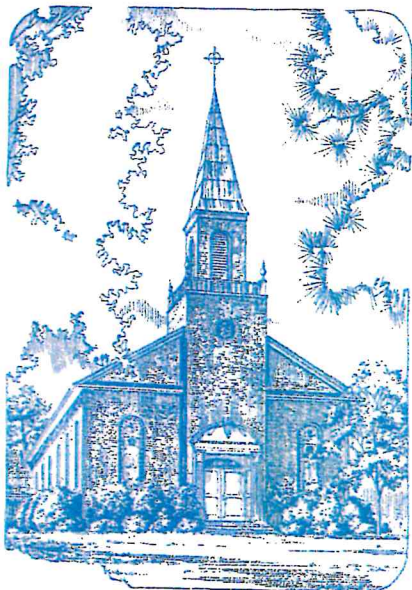
 <p>1 "God Sent the angel Gabriel to a girl named Mary." Luke 1:26</p>	 <p>2 "The angel said to her, 'Don't be afraid, because God is very pleased with you.'" Luke 1:30</p>	 <p>3 "Listen! You will become pregnant and have a baby boy. You will name him Jesus." Luke 1:31</p>	 <p>4 "He will be great. People will call him the Son of the Most High God." Luke 1:32</p>
 <p>5 "Mary said, 'I am the Lord's servant. Let this thing you have said happen to me!'" Luke 1:38</p>	 <p>6 "Caesar sent out an order... that everyone's name must be put on a list." Luke 2:1</p>	 <p>7 "Everyone traveled to their hometowns to have their name put on the list." Luke 2:3</p>	 <p>8 "So Joseph went to the town of David because he was from the family of David. Joseph registered with Mary." Luke 2:4-5</p>
 <p>9 "While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have the baby. She gave birth to her first son." Luke 2:6-7</p>	 <p>10 "There were no rooms left in the inn. So she wrapped the baby with cloths and laid him in a box where animals are fed." Luke 2:7</p>	 <p>11 "That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep." Luke 2:8</p>	 <p>12 "An angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them." Luke 2:9</p>
 <p>13 "The angel said to them, 'Don't be afraid, because I am bringing you some GOOD NEWS!'" Luke 2:10</p>	 <p>14 "Today your Savior was born in David's town. He is Christ, the Lord." Luke 2:11</p>	 <p>15 "This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a feeding box." Luke 2:12</p>	 <p>16 "All the angels were praising God, saying, 'Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people who please God.'" Luke 2:13-14</p>

25 Bible Verses to Countdown to CHRISTMAS Day!

 <p>17 "So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary, Joseph, and the baby." Luke 2:16-17</p>	 <p>18 "Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God and thanking him for everything that they had seen & heard." Luke 2:20</p>	 <p>19 "After Jesus was born, some wise men came from the east." Matthew 2:1</p>	 <p>20 "When the wise men saw the star, they were filled with joy." Matthew 2:10</p>
 <p>21 "They went to the house... and they bowed down and worshiped the child." Matthew 2:11</p>	 <p>22 "They gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11</p>	 <p>23 "A child will be born to us. God will give a son to us. His name will be... Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6</p>	 <p>24 "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life." John 3:16</p>

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Culdee Presbyterian Church

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END
NORTH CAROLINA

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8

Culdee Presbyterian Mission

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

Filling the pulpit at 10:00 am for Indoor Service in December will be:

December 5 Rev. Tom Currie
December 12, Mrs. Cathy Haynes
December 19, Musical Service
December 24,
December 26 Mr. Sandy Stewart

Weekly Worship Services

Sundays:

In the Sanctuary and Drive-In Service – 10:00 a.m.

Online Service-At your convenience

Wednesday Evening:

Brief weekly devotion and prayer



Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685 www.culdeechurch.net culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com